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UNIQUE GIFT OF KRIYAYOGA ASHRAM AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO GIVE IMPETUS TO WORLD BUILDING AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT.

Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta attacked in CM House

New Delhi: Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta was attacked by a man during a public hearing on Wednesday. The police have taken the accused into custody. The attack took place at the Public Service Center located at the Chief Minister's residence, Civil Lines, Raj Niwas Marg. The police is investigating

Custody

Rekha Gupta has described the attack on her today as a cowardly attempt

the matter and the Chief Minister's security has been increased. BJP leaders have strongly condemned



this attack and demanded action against the culprit. According to sources,

the accused approached the Chief Minister on the pretext of giving a complaint during the public hearing and attacked her. The police have taken the accused into custody and taken him to Civil Lines police station and he is being questioned. Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva strongly con-

demned the incident and said that during the public hearing today a person came to the Chief Minister, gave some papers and suddenly tried to pull her by holding her hand. During this, there was a little pushing and shoving. He told that after the incident he has come to meet the Chief Minister.

Removal of 'tainted' PM, CMs

Uproar

Will be applicable in crimes with 5 years+ punishment; Bill opposed



The Constitution (130th) Amendment Bill

Through the Constitution Amendment Bill, changes will be made in Article 75 of the Constitution. It says- 'A minister, who, while in office, is accused of a serious crime, in which the punishment can be five years or more in prison. If such a minister is arrested or detained continuously for 30 days, then he can be removed from the post by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister till the 31st day of custody.' According to the bill, even in the event of not getting advice from the PM till the 31st day, the minister will automatically become ineligible.

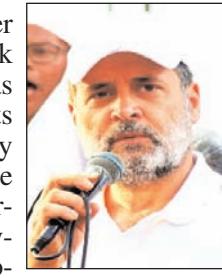


Lok Sabha - the Union Territories (One Hundred and Thirtieth Amendment) Bill, 2025 and Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization

(Amendment) Bill, 2025. The introduction of the bill was opposed by AIMIM's Asaduddin Owaisi, Congress's Manish Tewari, RSP's NK Premachandran, SP's Dharmendra Yadav and Congress' KC Venugopal. They described it as against the basic structure of the Constitution, fundamental principles, parliamentary democracy. Amit Shah also responded to the allegations of opposition MPs during this time. He said that the bill has been brought so that the values of morality remain intact. He also said that he too had gone to jail while being a minister in Gujarat and he had resigned from his post. He did not hold any constitutional post until he was freed from all the charges. Also on the bill being brought in a hurry, Shah said that the bills will be sent to the joint committee for further consideration

Our government will definitely take action against the Election Commission: Rahul

Patna: Senior Congress leader and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi has embarked on a 'Voter Rights Yatra' in Bihar. On the fourth day of the yatra on Wednesday, he reached Sheikhpura, where he targeted the Central and Bihar governments while addressing a public gathering. While addressing a public meeting in Sheikhpura, Rahul Gandhi said that "one day the truth will also come out, in which it will be known that the last election of Bihar was also won by cheating. People of Election Commission should remember, our government will definitely take action against them. While addressing the people in Bigha, he said that the poor of India have only the right to vote left. Now the government of Bharatiya Janata Party is trying to snatch this too. If your vote is lost, then later the ration card, then the land and then whatever is left with you, everything will be lost."



Reservation should be implemented in institutions: Congress



Demand

Congress has appealed to the Govt. to implement reservation in institutions

Committee on Education headed by Digvijay Singh was presented in Parliament today.

The committee has recommended that Parliament should pass a law under which 15 percent reservation for SC communities, 7.5 percent for ST and 27 percent for OBC should be made mandatory in private higher educational institutions. Congress General Secretary Jairam Ramesh, in a statement, has demanded the implementation of 15 percent for SC and 27 percent for OBC in private higher educational institutions.

New Delhi: Citing the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education headed by Rajya Sabha member Digvijay Singh, the Congress has appealed to the Central Government to implement reservation for Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Other Backward Classes (OBC) in private higher educational institutions. The report of the Parliamentary

Smart villages more important than smart cities in the country: Nitin Gadkari



important role in the development of the country. In this direction, work has been done at a fast pace in the last few years under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He said that today the share of agriculture in India's economy has remained only 12.

PM will visit Bihar and West Bengal tomorrow

He will flag off two trains and address a public meeting

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Bihar and West Bengal on August 22, where he will inaugurate and lay the foundation stone of several development projects worth more than Rs 18,000 crore. During this, he will flag off two trains and also address public meetings. The Prime Minister's Office said on Wednesday that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will reach Gaya in Bihar at

Projects

Will inaugurate and lay the foundation stone of development projects worth

around 11 am on August 22, where he will inaugurate and lay the foundation stone of several development projects worth about Rs 13,000 crore. He will flag off two trains and address a public meeting. On this occasion,

Rupee closed with a weakness of 11 paise against the dollar

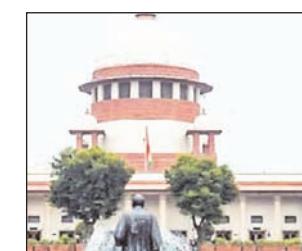
New Delhi: After showing gains for two consecutive days, the Indian currency rupee today weakened against the dollar. It is believed that due to the rise in the price of crude oil and the increase in the demand for the dollar, the pressure on the rupee increased today. After facing fluctuations in the currency market throughout the day, the Indian currency today closed at 87.07.

built on NH-31 at a cost of Rs 1,870 crore, which will provide direct connectivity between Mokama and Begusarai in Patna. This new six-lane bridge is built parallel to the old Rajendra Setu due to which heavy vehicles will no longer have to cover an additional distance of 100 km. Apart from this, the Prime Minister will also inaugurate the four-lane section of Bakhtiyarpur-Mokama NH-31.

IIM Amendment Bill passed by both houses of Parliament

New Delhi: The Rajya Sabha on Wednesday passed the Indian Institute of Management (Amendment) Bill, 2025 by voice vote, paving the way for setting up the country's 22nd and Assam's first Indian Institute of Management (IIM) in Guwahati. The central government will provide capital assistance of Rs 550 crore for this. This bill has been passed by the Lok Sabha a day earlier on Tuesday. According to the gov-

agents cannot collect toll. NHAI had challenged the order of the Kerala High Court. The High Court had banned toll collection on the dilapidated National Highway 544. The bench headed by Chief Justice BR Gavai said that after the problem of potholes and



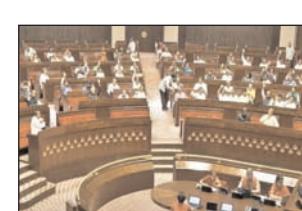
jams, the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) or its

Edappally to Munnuthi very bad.

During the hearing, when a lawyer mentioned the jam outside the Supreme Court, the Chief Justice said that in a city like Delhi, the entire city comes to a standstill in just two hours of rain, Delhi becomes paralyzed.

Class 10 student stabbed to death in Ahmedabad

Ahmedabad: Angry family members of a schoolboy murdered in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, reached the school and beat up the principal and other staff and vandalised the school. The family members blocked the road and demanded strict action against the accused student. Police have not disclosed the names of the deceased and the accused student as they are minors. Top police officials are present at the spot. In fact, yesterday, on August 19, in a minor incident like a scuffle in a school in Khokhara area of Ahmedabad, an eighth class student stabbed a tenth class student. The injured student died in a private hospital in Maninagar this morning. Officials of Khokhara police station said that a few days ago, there was an altercation between these two students over something. To take revenge for this old rivalry, the accused brought a hidden knife on Tuesday. As soon as the school was over, he attacked the tenth class.



higher education in Northeast India, promote world-class management education and research and empower economic development and business leadership. The opposition walked out of the House after the Indian Institute of Management (Amendment) Bill, 2025 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha. Education Minister said during the discussion on the bill that this is not just the establishment of an educational institution.

Changes in GST rates will benefit common man: FM

She said that the new GST reforms will provide more relief to the common man

Reforms

Nirmala Sitharaman was addressing the Group of Ministers (GoMs)



New Delhi: Union Minister of State for Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman has said that the changes in the rates in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) reforms will provide relief to the common man, farmers, middle class, MSMEs. These include reduction in tax rates and reducing the compliance burden for businesses.

She said that the new GST reforms will provide more relief to the common man, farmers, middle class, MSMEs.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman was addressing the Group of Ministers (GoMs) of the States on Compensation Cess, Health and Life Insurance and Rationalization of Rates by the GST Council at Vigyan

Every success comes with sisters and daughters: CM

Bhopal. Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav said that Rakshabandhan has special significance in our culture. There is no success until a son comes to the house, but every success i.e. perfection cannot be achieved until a daughter goes to the house. Rakshabandhan is the king of festivals. Life becomes successful with the blessings of sisters. The state government is committed for the welfare of sisters. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav was

PM Modi is committed to give more representation to sisters

Prime Minister Modi is committed to give more representation to sisters in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. He believes in the capabilities of farmers and soldiers. India is becoming the most capable country in the world under the leadership of Prime



Minister Modi. He said that today some people do not even respect the Election

Commission and the Army. Citizens welcomed Chief Minister Dr. Yadav with garlands and rose petals in the road show held in Chandbar area before the Raksha Bandhan program. Sisters tied Rakhi to CM in the program.

addressing a huge Rakshabandhan program organized in Ward 37 of

Chandbad area of Bhopal late evening. He said that during the Mahabharata peri-

od, Lord Krishna beheaded Shishupal with Sudarshan Chakra, then Lord Krishna's finger was injured. On this, Draupadi tore the pallu of the saree and tied it on Lord Krishna's finger. This was the symbol of Rakhi. After this, the tradition of Raksha Bandhan started. India is becoming the most capable country in the world under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has worked to provide housing, gas stove and other facilities to poor families.

Uttarakhand Assembly session remained uproarious

Government dealt with legislative work- Congress MLAs' sit-in continues in the House- Chief Minister

Uproar

A total of 09 bills including Freedom of Religion (Amendment)



Dhami placed the supplementary budget on the table

Around four o'clock on evening, amid the uproar of the opposition, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami placed the supplementary budget on the table of the House. With this, the proceedings of the House were adjourned till 11 am.

Wednesday. Despite the adjournment of the House, the opposition continued to sit on the dharna till late evening. The proceedings of the House started at 11 am, the opposition MLAs came into the well and started creating a ruckus. Meanwhile,

the Congress leaders even overturned the table in the House. The House had to be adjourned till 11.20 minutes, 11.30 am, 11.40, 11.50, 12 noon and 12.20. The proceedings of the House started at 12.20 minutes and till 01.25 pm, tribute was paid to former MLA Munni Devi in the House. After this, the House was adjourned till 03 pm for lunch break. The proceedings of the House started at 03 pm and amid the noise, the government passed 08 bills. After this, the proceedings of the House were adjourned.

Congress MLAs remained on dharna in the House

Since the adjournment of the session, the Congress MLAs remained on dharna in the House. Congress MLAs reached to meet the Speaker of the Assembly but the talks were fruitless. Congress MLAs were sitting on a dharna inside the House.

Are there hazardous category industries and residential colonies in Sitapura Industrial Area: Court

Jaipur. Rajasthan High Court has asked the Chief Secretary to submit an affidavit in the case related to shifting of IOCL's LPG bottling plant located in Sitapura Industrial Area of Jaipur to another place. The court has asked the Chief Secretary whether JDA and Municipal Corporation have developed residential colonies in this industrial area, which come under the purview of hazardous activities. At the same time, the court has also asked to present information about the industrial, commercial.

Sanjeev Prakash Sharma and Justice Sanjit Purohit gave this order on the public interest petition of Om Prakash Tank. The court has asked RIICO to tell whether such other establishments or industries are operating in the industrial area, which come under the purview of hazardous activities. At the same time, the court has also asked to present information about the industrial, commercial.

Woman shot dead inside her house

East Champaran. Criminals entered a 55-year-old woman's house and shot her dead near Nimuiya turn in Turkaulia police station area of the district. The deceased woman is Chanda Devi, wife of Umashankar Prasad of Nimuiya village. The incident is said to have taken place late on Tuesday night.

The villagers came to know about the incident on Wednesday morning.

Himcare scheme was made for the care of the poor: CM



Scheme

He told that 25 private health institutions have been registered for dialysis

Himcare scheme has been closed and the patients are not getting its benefits. To this, Health Minister Dr. Dhaniram Shandil replied that the scheme is still running, but a liability of more than Rs 364.20 crore is pending. He told that 25 private health institutions have been registered for dialysis. However, due to irregularities in private hospitals, Himcare facility was stopped there for some time.

Urban development touching new dimensions: Sharma



Jaipur. Under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma, the state government is continuously working in the field of urban development and this sector is touching new heights of development. Urban development in the state shows a unique confluence of modern aesthetics, cultural expression and public facilities. The new development jour-

ney of the capital Jaipur also has a unique combination of modern infrastructure with its traditional and cultural iden-

MP: Girl missing from train found near Nepal border in UP after 12 days

Bhopal. 29-year-old Archana Tiwari, who went missing from the AC coach of Narmada Express train between Indore and Katni in Madhya Pradesh on 7 August, has been found in UP after 12 days. Bhopal GRP recovered her from Lakhimpur Kheri in UP on Tuesday. Bhopal GRP Superintendent of Police Rahul Kumar Lodha said that Archana Tiwari has been recovered from Lakhimpur Kheri in UP near the Nepal border.

Information was collected from constable Ram Tomar posted

Information was collected from constable Ram Tomar posted at Bhanwarpura police station in Gwalior regarding the disappearance of the student. The student and the constable were in contact for two years. It is being told that the constable had also booked a ticket from Indore to Katni for Archana from his own mobile using his ID. During interrogation, Ram Tomar told that Archana was in touch with him for 2 years.

peared from the train midway. When the train reached Katni, only the bag was found on the seat, but she was not there. After this, teams of Indore, Bhopal, Katni GRP, district police force as well as forest department were also searching in the forest.

CM inaugurated the payment of ex-gratia relief

Survey

We took stock of the situation by conducting an aerial survey of the flood-affected areas



Patna. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Wednesday inaugurated the payment of ex-gratia relief amount to flood affected fami-

People angry after finding severed head of cow in Kullu

Kullu. Hindu organizations have been deeply angered after the severed head of a cow calf was found in Banjar subdivision of district Kullu. As soon as the information about this barbaric incident found on the roadside was received, many organizations including Dev Bhoomi Jagran Manch have reacted sharply and demanded strict action against the culprits. The incident came to light when the severed head of a cow calf was found lying on the road in Banjar area. A video went viral on social media in this regard, which created a sensation in the area and enraged Hindu organizations. SP and demanded strict legal action against the accused.

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Havoc

Bhuntar in Kullu received 50 mm and Shimla and Bilaspur received 40 mm

Shimla. Monsoon havoc continues in Himachal Pradesh.

lies in the year 2025 at the rate of Rs 7000 per family directly in their bank account through DBT from 'Sankalp' located at 1 Anne Marg. Today, Rs 456 crore 12 lakh was paid to 6 lakh 51 thousand 602 affected families of 12 districts at the rate of Rs 7000 per family. During the program, the Chief Minister said, "We had

a review meeting with the officials of the flood-affected districts on August 13 and on August 14, we took stock of the situation by conducting an aerial survey of the flood-affected areas of Patna, Vaishali, Begusarai and Munger districts. We had instructed the officials to carry out relief and rescue operations in the flood-affected areas.

356 roads blocked due to landslides, Life in the state is badly affected due to continuous rain

Yellow alert for heavy rain in Himachal till August 25



Heavy rains also occurred in most parts of the state including the capital Shimla.

Meteorological Center Shimla has issued a yellow alert for heavy rains till August 25.

Hearing on irregularities in Panchayat elections in High Court

Nainital. Hearing was held in the High Court on the petition seeking re-polls after alleged irregularities during the election of District Panchayat President and Vice President. The matter will also be heard on Wednesday. In



the hearing held before Chief Justice G.

Narender and Justice Subhash Upadhyay, the District Magistrate, who was present through video conferencing, presented his report on the counting process in the court in the form of an affidavit.

During this period, there is a possibility of thunderstorms, thunderstorms and lightning in many districts. According to the Meteorological Department, there will be a yellow alert for lightning in Una, Kangra, Mandi, Shimla and Sirmour districts. An alert has been issued

'Amrit Bharat Train' will run from Gaya Ji in Bihar to New Delhi from August 22

Patna. 'Amrit Bharat Train' will run from Gaya Ji, the land of knowledge and salvation in Bihar, to New Delhi from August 22. Its operation will provide passengers a new option for affordable and convenient travel. This

train will be specially flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This train will also stop at two major stations of Bihar, Sasaram and Dehradoon, which will provide direct and comfortable travel to the capital.

HC stays conviction order of Abbas in hate speech case

Prayagraj. Allahabad High Court has stayed the conviction order of Abbas Ansari in hate speech case and has cancelled the order of lower court refusing to stay the sentence and conviction order. This order has been given by a single bench of Justice Sameer Jain on the review petition of Abbas Ansari. The stay order passed on conviction will remain till the appeal is pending before the District Judge. The High Court has said in its order that the comment made in this order will not affect his pending appeal against the sentence. The court has also directed to decide the appeal independently. Abbas Ansari, former MLA of Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party (SBSP) from Mau Sadar seat of Uttar Pradesh and son of mafia Mukhtar Ansari, has got a big relief from the Allahabad High Court. The High Court suspended the conviction order of Abbas. Abbas Ansari had filed a revision petition in the High Court against the lower court's order refusing to stay the sentence. The court had reserved the decision on July 30 after the arguments of both the sides were completed. Today its decision was given by Justice Jain. On May 31, the MLA Court Mau had sentenced.

Two accused of murderous attack sentenced to 7 years

Firozabad. The court on Wednesday sentenced two accused of murderous attack to 7 years of imprisonment each. They were fined. If they do not pay the fine, they will have to undergo additional punishment. Anil Kumar, a resident of village Nanemou of Thana Nasirpur, was shot and injured on 10 March 2018 when he protested against the abuses of the goons. He was sitting with his sister and mother. The injured's sister Neelam filed a case against Anil alias Chhote son of Ramveer and Sonu son of Avran Singh of the same village. After investigation, the police filed a chargesheet against both of them.

Orai. In an incident that happened three days ago in Madhogarh Kotwali area, the body of that young man was recovered from the river on Wednesday after about 60 hours, while the search for the two little girls is still on. Three days ago, a young man reached Juhikha bridge of Sirsa Kalar police station area

with his two little daughters. He first threw both his daughters in the river stream and immediately after that he himself committed suicide by jumping into the Yamuna river. About 60 hours after this incident, the body of a young man was recovered on the river bank near Khargui bridge of Sirsa Kalar police station

area on Wednesday. This place is about 40 kilometers away from the incident spot Juhikha bridge, where the flow of the river swept the body away. Local people saw the body lying on the river bank and immediately informed the police. The police team reached the spot and took the body in their possession.

Father's body recovered 60 hours after throwing daughters in river, girls still missing

Meja. The Vigilance Awareness Campaign was started at MUNPL Meja with a pledge administered by Shri Asesh Kumar Chattopadhyay, CEO, MUNPL, reaffirming the organization's unwavering commitment to integrity and transparency. This year, the campaign is centred around the theme "Vigilance – Our Shared Responsibility",



highlighting the importance of collective efforts in fostering ethical conduct and combating corruption. The

pledge event was also attended by Shri Avijit Chatterjee, CGM (Technical Services), Amit Rautela, CFO (MUNPL), Nawab Ansari, AGM (Vigilance), and other employees, underscoring the collective leadership's dedication to the cause.

Treatment

□ This year, the campaign is centred around the theme "Vigilance – Our Shared Responsibility"

MUNPL, Nawab Ansari, AGM (Vigilance), and other employees, underscoring the collective leadership's dedication to the cause.

MUNPL Meja has been consistent in its efforts to promote vigilance awareness through continuous engagement, training, and proactive measures. As part of this initiative, a series of activities, including training on Ethics and Integrity, capacity building programs, and digital initiatives, will be conducted over the next three months, continuing until November.

Vigilance Awareness Campaign started at MUNPL Meja



Bareilly. Incidents of fire at two different places in the city created a stir. Fortunately, the quick action of the fire brigade brought the situation under control and any major loss of life or damage could be

Fire in Katha factory and Bank of Baroda, major accident averted

Flames

□ The fire had spread to the cardboard boxes and the flames were intensifying

avoided. The first incident took place on Tuesday night in Katha factory in Izzatnagar area. At around 8 pm, people saw smoke rising from the tin shed of The India Wood Product Pvt. Ltd. located on Nainital Road

'Law with Labs' is playing a leading role in the progress of UP



Praising CM Yogi for bringing the vision of 'Law with Labs' to the ground, he said that awareness about forensic science was spread through the seminar,

which will benefit the young students making a career in this field the most.

According to experts, through this seminar, the students not only got

Services of 22 assistant teachers terminated in Education Department

Lucknow. Services of 22 candidates who got appointment on the basis of forged and fake mark sheets and certificates in Uttar Pradesh Secondary Education Department have been terminated. District School Inspectors of the respective districts have been instructed to recover the irregular salary payments made to all of them and to register an FIR against them. The Director of Secondary Education has directed.

Panic due to drones flying in villages at night, Complaint



Jaunpur. These days drones flying in villages at night are spreading panic. People are making videos of drones flying at night and sending them to each other and discussing about it. The villagers are guarding their houses with sticks throughout the night. Mainly this matter has become a topic of discussion in Badauvan village of Madiyahun police station area. The villagers have also given information about this in

writing to the top officials of the district. Drones are seen in Badauvan village at night since last Sunday. People are shooting videos. During this, there is a ruckus and the villagers also run towards the drone, but then suddenly these

drones disappear. A few days ago, big thefts took place in three houses of the village in a single night. The police has failed to disclose it till now.

After the theft incident, drones have now spread panic in the

A newborn baby girl was found crying in a sack on the roadside

Critical



Child Line coordinator Tabassum Anju Sagar reached the spot and took the newborn out of the sack. After this, the girl was immediately admitted to the private nursing home Royal Hospital.

Vision

□ The vision of 'Law with Labs' is playing a leading role in the progress of UP

information about the changes taking place on the ground, but also got meaningful information about the changes coming in the global scenario, the use of artificial intelligence and other future-based technologies, which is not only inspiring but will

also act as a guide for them. Renowned experts from the country and abroad participated in the program and their suggestions will also prove helpful in the modernization of the police system in the state. Experts also believed that the kind of facilities with which UPSIFS is being equipped by the state government will prove to be a milestone in the future not only in India but in the entire South Asia. Seminar became a medium.

In the Katghar police station area, a person named Sonu called the Dial 112 police and told that a

operation. The traffic police maintained traffic control during the operation and took strict action against vehicles parked in no parking zones and issued challans. According to the PDA, this campaign will continue in the future as well. In view of the ever-increasing encroachment and traffic chaos, the rules will now be strictly enforced. He clarified that if any shopkeeper or vehicle owner is found violating the rules in future, punitive action will be taken against him. The local people have supported this action of the Municipal Corporation and said that the problem of traffic jam has been going on for years in major commercial areas like Civil Lines.

Prayagraj. Allahabad High Court has approved the bail plea of Vishnu Mishra, son of former MLA Vijay Mishra from Bhadohi, accused of possessing illegal weapons. This order has been given by the court of Justice Rajbir Singh on the second bail plea filed by Vishnu Mishra. The case is from Gopiganj police station of Bhadohi under sections 37-25 and 29-B of the Arms Act. Many cases are already registered against Vishnu Mishra under other sections including rape. A case of rape of a singer was registered against former MLA Vijay Mishra and Vishnu Mishra. Vijay Mishra is currently lodged in Agra jail while son Vishnu is lodged in Lakhimpur Kheri jail. On August 4, 2022, the police recovered a nine mm pistol, four magazines, 375 cartridges and an AK-47 rifle from a petrol pump in Amwa, Bhadohi. On the basis of this recovery, the second case was registered in

2020, the police had received information that he was hiding at Chandan Tiwari's house in Anapur village. A pistol was recovered from there and during the raid, Vishnu escaped by dodging the police. On August 4, 2022, on his information, the police recovered a nine mm pistol, four magazines, 375 cartridges and an AK-47 rifle from a petrol pump in Amwa, Bhadohi. On the basis of this recovery, the second case was registered in

village. More or less the same situation is seen in some areas of the city headquarters as well, drone cameras are seen flying at night and in some places late in the evening. Whereas the district administration has already ordered a ban on flying drone cameras.

The District Magistrate has clearly instructed that before flying any drone camera, permission will be taken by giving information about it.

After the theft incident, drones have now spread panic in the

area. As soon as the information was received, Lajpat police post in-charge Mahesh, Peetalbasti police post in-charge Krishna Kumar and

Editorial

Shashi Tharoor has always disliked 'statist Congress'

Power is in the words. Language has mystical powers. I enjoy playing with words. Those words are hot. You can be moved to tears by words. You can find humor in words. Moreover, there are few things that can convey the planet and all its inhabitants as vividly and comprehensively as words. During the 2009 austerity drive of the Congress-led UPA administration, Tharoor was embroiled in controversy for his response to a query regarding flying "cattle class" to Kerala. His statement, "Absolutely, in cattle class out of solidarity with all our holy cows!" caused a political storm following his response. Tharoor, an accomplished writer of numerous best-selling books on Indian society and politics, was forced to clarify that he did not want to offend economy class passengers after the Congress party swiftly censured him. After 16 years, Tharoor is now again in trouble for comments he made in an interview. In response to a Malayalam report that he had claimed, "We have many leaders, but many feel that there are no ordinary workers," Tharoor clarified that he had really said, "several workers feel there is an absence of a leader in Kerala's Congress." "You should not think that I have no option to spend my time. I have options," Tharoor added earlier in the interview. I have speeches, books, and invitations to speak all around the globe. Some saw his comments as a covert signal to the highest levels of Congress that he was thinking about other political paths. Amidst the upcoming Assembly elections in the state next year, Tharoor is now facing accusations of "crossing the line" from the top leaders of the Congress's faction-ridden Kerala unit, putting him in the center of a maelstrom. Because of this, Shashi Tharoor has been named this week's ThePrint Newsmaker. Actually, Tharoor's essay praising the new industrial policies of the Left-led Kerala government had already been a hot topic before the interview controversy erupted. Tharoor had stated that, during the course of 18 months last year, Kerala's startup ecosystem was valued at an astounding \$1.7 billion, which is five times higher than the worldwide average for the same time period. While the fact that this change has started happening under an LDF government run by communists is shocking, it is not totally unexpected. "The path to growth and prosperity for their people lies in capitalism, entrepreneurship, and initiative, not in red flags, strikes, and agitations," he said in the post, comparing the Communists in Kerala to their West Bengal counterparts at the turn of the century. While he disagrees that the state's industrial climate has changed generally, Tharoor defended himself by saying that "when something good emerges, even if only in one area, it is pretty not to acknowledge it" in response to attacks from Kerala Congress officials over the piece. Tharoor, a former UN diplomat, has had a tumultuous political career with the Congress since his 2009 victory in the Lok Sabha elections from the Thiruvananthapuram constituency. Mostly because he had a habit of saying things that went against the party line. However, he consistently gets himself into problems by more than simply his words. In 2009, as the UPA was implementing its austerity measures, Tharoor and then-External Affairs Minister SM Krishna came under fire from the government for allegedly residing in a five-star hotel in Delhi while their official quarters were still being prepared. Tharoor lost his position in the Manmohan Singh government's council of ministers in 2010 due to the scandal surrounding the sweat equity provided to Sunanda Pushkar, his then-girlfriend and later-wife, by a consortium that owned the Kochi club of the Indian Premier League. His ordination as a junior minister was renewed in 2012. Tharoor was thrust into his gravest professional crisis in January 2014, when Pushkar was discovered dead in a luxurious Delhi hotel room—months prior to the Lok Sabha elections.



Muslims want waqf reforms too. It's not an issue for political acrimony

When the Waqf Amendment Bill 2024 was first tabled in the Lok Sabha on 8 August last year, it triggered fears within the Muslim community, as it was perceived to have been introduced without adequate consultation with stakeholders. After all, the issue of waqfs—Muslim institutions through which property is bequeathed for religious or charitable purposes—is sensitive because it involves socio-religious spaces such as qabristans, masjids, idgahs, and madrasas. As such, the government and Parliament were exhorted to adopt procedures that allayed rather than stoked the fears of

Muslims. In this backdrop, the decision to refer the bill to a joint committee of both Houses of Parliament was welcome. The 31-member committee, drawn from across party lines, received 97,27,772 memoranda overall. There were representations from various ministries and departments—including Minority Affairs, Law and Justice, Railways, Housing and Urban Affairs, Road Transport, and Culture (Archaeological Survey of India)—as well as state waqf boards and experts, ensuring a diversity of opinions. As such, the government and Parliament were exhorted to adopt pro-

cedures that allayed rather than stoked the fears of Muslims. In this backdrop, the decision to refer the bill to a joint committee of both Houses of Parliament was welcome. The 31-member committee, drawn from across party lines, received 97,27,772 memoranda overall. There were representations from various ministries and departments—including Minority Affairs, Law and Justice, Railways, Housing and Urban Affairs, Road Transport, and Culture (Archaeological Survey of India)—as well as state waqf boards and experts, ensuring a diversity of opinions. It is not entirely

correct to state that waqf reforms are being externally foisted. Rather, to a large extent, the demand for waqf reforms has emerged from within the Muslim community also. The Ministry of Minority Affairs received numerous complaints from Muslims on the maladministration of waqf properties, which manifested in voluminous litigations. The ministry's analysis of grievances received from April 2023 found that 148 complaints pertained mostly to encroachments, illegal sales of waqf land, delays in surveys and registration, and complaints against waqf boards and mutawallis.

Has Trump Abandoned Ukraine In Favour Of Russia?



Donald Trump has spent only a month in his second term as the US President. However, he has disrupted the international order, weakened the Western alliance and created a sense of insecurity and uncertainty among its members, surprising even some of his supporters. There has been a paradigm shift in US foreign policy under Trump. He is now closer to Moscow than Washington's traditional allies. He has embraced the Kremlin's narrative on Ukraine and has sidelined US allies. Although senior members of the Trump administration have denied that the US has abandoned Kyiv and ignored its European allies, Trump himself has not made any serious attempts to pacify Ukrainians and Europeans. His closeness to Russia has been on display since he talked for 90 minutes on the phone with Russian leader Vladimir Putin, in which they agreed to start negotiations to end the Ukraine war, which will mark its third anniversary on Monday. Trump did speak to Zelenskyy soon after that call with Putin, but a nervous Ukrainian President warned that excluding his country from the talks would be "very dangerous". Events after that only made Ukrainians feel sidelined. Trump's Vice President, JD Vance, met European leaders in Munich two days later. But his comment that Europe will not be included in the peace talks only helped fuelled the speculation that they were being left out of the future of Ukraine, which is closer to their homes and in which they have invested a lot of money and effort since

the Russian invasion. Vance's meeting with Zelenskyy did not go well either as the Ukrainian leader refused to give access to the country's vast reserves of critical minerals unless he was given security guarantees. That angered Washington. Ending the Russia-Ukraine war was Trump's major campaign promise. But hardly anyone expected him to brazenly take Russia's side and even blame Ukraine for the conflict, which he did. Last Tuesday, a US delegation led by Secretary of State Marco Rubio met the Russian delegation headed by Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov in Saudi Arabia, to discuss peace. Ukraine was not invited. Putin—who had been shunned by the US and its allies since the invasion of Ukraine—was delighted. A frustrated Zelenskyy dismissed the Riyad talks as worthless. Trump did not like those comments and called the Ukraine President a dictator, even accusing him of starting the war. Zelenskyy said the US President was living in a Russian-made "disinformation space". This infuriated Trump, who does not take kindly to any criticism. He described Zelenskyy as "a modestly successful comedian" who "talked the United

States of America into spending \$350 Billion, to go into a War that couldn't be won, that never had to start, but a War that he, without the U.S. and 'TRUMP', will never be able to settle." Trump's behaviour towards Zelenskyy is in stark contrast to Biden's, who had backed Ukraine against Russia with all the possible military and financial aid. President Biden travelled to Ukraine many times since the Russian invasion in February 2022 to display his administration's full support. He also promised NATO membership to Ukraine at a future date. Russia was severely punished for invading Ukraine. The US joined hands with its allies to isolate Moscow. Russia faced tough sanctions and its assets in the West were seized. The International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant against Putin for alleged war crimes in Ukraine. There were even plans to put Putin and his close allies on Nuremberg-style trials. Until a year ago, Ukraine's leader was talking about even liberating all its territory, including Crimea, which Russia annexed in 2014, with the help of Western military equipment. Ukraine even succeeded in occupying the

Russian territory of Kursk, which it had thought would be used as a bargaining chip during negotiations with Moscow. But all that now looks like a distant dream. With Trump back in the White House, Ukraine fears that Russia will be allowed to keep all the occupied territory as part of the deal to end the war. Kyiv is now likely to be denied NATO membership. That could be a promise to Russia to end the war. The US under Trump has now even opposed calling Russia an aggressor in a G-7 statement being prepared to mark the third anniversary of the war. The US team removed the phrase from the first draft, which was prepared by Canada, the current holder of the group's presidency. It is not just Ukraine, America's European allies are also now nervous about the intent of Trump. Since the Second World War, they enjoyed the US security umbrella under NATO. But now they are unsure if the US under Trump will honour Article 5 of the NATO, which is triggered when a member state comes under attack. It implies that an attack on one member is an attack on all. There is even fear in Europe that Donald Trump may sign a deal with the Russian leader Vladimir Putin that will lead to the withdrawal of US forces from Baltic states and effectively kill the NATO alliance. That could be similar to the non-aggression treaty signed by the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany on August 23, 1939, sending shockwaves to other European countries and prompting Hitler and Stalin to annex neighbouring countries. It is another matter

The Hindutva Pitch of the BJP: Will Bihar Pay Attention This Time?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi attacked the opposition, calling members of the party who support "jungle raj" anti-Indian and anti-faith. Furthermore, he said that the state's citizens would hold anybody who insults Maha Kumbh in contempt forever. Political circles were captivated by his attention on Maha Kumbh, which he displayed barely two days before Maha Shivratri, as the event was coming to a close. For what reason did Modi bring up the holy event, which has been going on for almost two months, Was all he was doing was addressing the Opposition's strong criticism of what they saw as poor administration during the world's largest religious gathering, the Maha Kumbh, and the two stampedes that occurred there. Did he want Maha Kumbh to be a part of the National Democratic Alliance's Bihar election platform? It is quite probable that Modi, who had begun the NDA's Bihar election campaign with Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, purposefully

brought up the controversy surrounding Maha Kumbh in order to strengthen the Hindu support among the OBC. Many also saw it as an effort to win over religiously inclined female voters. Meanwhile, political scientists claimed Modi didn't really need to mention Maha Kumbh. In contrast to Uttar Pradesh, religious and communal appeals do not have the same impact on elections in Bihar. A transformative governance agenda has traditionally had a greater impact on the state. Rather than a rising embrace of the Hindutva ideology of the BJP, observers pointed out that Bihar was shifting away from the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) led by Lalu Yadav owing to fears of his previous misrule. North Bihar is still firmly under the control of the NDA, and yatrals, which were once used to communalize politics, have not been very successful. The Hindu Swabhiman Yatra, which Union Minister Giriraj Singh attempted last year but was unable to launch, is a prime example.

The trinity that failed women at Maha Kumbh. Holy, unholly, and the algorithm

Asasavage irony is unfolding in Uttar Pradesh right now. India's holiest gathering is a hunting ground for faceless remote predators. At the "once in 144 years" Maha Kumbh Mela underway in Prayagraj, where millions congregate to wash away their sins in the Ganga, an unholly alliance of voyeurs, traders, and technology has formed. They're transforming purification into portable entertainment. What's on sale? The privacy and bodily integrity of women devotees. And the price? Anywhere between Rs 800 and Rs 2,000, depending on the quality of violation. Indian women have been failed, yet again, by a new trinity: The holy, the unholly, and the algorithm. Last week, 13 FIRs were lodged against 140 social media accounts for posting objectionable videos of women, including those of female devotees taking a dip at the Kumbh. The bathing videos came to light during a separate investigation by the Ahmedabad Cyber Crime Police into videos sourced from a Rajkot hospital's gynaecology department. The investigation revealed that the three accused—Prajwal Taili, Praj Patil, and Chandraprakash Phoolchand—ran at least 22 Telegram channels where they sold clips of women, recorded and traded without their consent. The three men, a YouTuber from Prayagraj and two NEET aspirants from Maharashtra, ran their enterprise under an innocuous name "Megha Demos Group". The channels, with labels like "CCTV Injection Group", "Labor Room Injection Group", and "Ganga River Open Bathing Group", turned these transgressions into a menu of options.

"Disturbingly, some content featured covert recordings from hospital labour rooms, medical examinations, and public areas like bus stands, marriage halls, and parlours," cyber crime officers told The Times of India. This lucrative venture raked in Rs 8 lakh a year. To the credit of UP Police, their social media monitoring team has moved swiftly, and identified 15 more accounts across Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram participating in this ecosystem of exploitation. The state government has now banned cameras at bathing ghats, deploying CRPF and state police personnel to enforce this prohibition. In 2019 too, the Allahabad High Court had banned the publishing of photos and videos of women at the Kumbh Mela: "The court said no pictures of women bathing or taking a holy dip should be shared. It also warned that action would be taken if the order was broken. This rule applies to both print and visual media." This violation and commodification of women's bodies at the Maha Kumbh represents a betrayal across three interconnected spheres. It's not as if Indian women are unfamiliar with such trespasses—that's our daily reality. But the Kumbh videos expose a particularly perverse intersection of faith, trade, and technology. First, there is the sacred: In a space of spiritual liberation, the crowd provides both cover and target for predators. Elaborate systems.

At Indian temples and other places of worship prevent photography to protect idols and deities. Those regulations don't extend to the bodies of women who show up at these sites. Then comes the betrayal by the profane, a carefully constructed marketplace where every assault is catalogued, priced, and traded. What's most chilling about the Kumbh videos is the clinical efficiency of their distribution. The "Megha Demos Group" operated with the precision of a tech startup, complete with a freemium business model. Finally, there is the betrayal by technology, where algorithms.

RBI Governor at MPC meet says economy shows strength and stability

● The Reserve Bank of India on Wednesday released the minutes of the MPC meeting held from August 4 to 6, where Malhotra and five other members voted

NEW DELHI: The Indian economy presents a picture of strength, stability and opportunity, Reserve Bank Governor Sanjay Malhotra said at the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting earlier this month, while cautioning that monetary policy must remain vigilant amid evolving uncertainties around US tariffs. The Reserve Bank of India on Wednesday released the minutes of the MPC meeting held from August 4 to 6, where Malhotra and five other members voted to keep the short-term lending rate unchanged at 5.5 per cent, PTI reported. "Overall, our economy



"The uncertainties of tariffs are still evolving"

The uncertainties of tariffs are still evolving," he said, stressing the need for a watchful policy approach. The Governor also noted that the cash reserve ratio (CRR) cut, which will come into effect from next month, would aid monetary transmission.

presents a picture of strength, stability, and opportunity. India's

strong fundamentals, growth-inducing policies, and forward-looking

She favoured a neutral stance so that future actions remain data-driven

I do not see the scope or rationale for a further policy rate cut at this point." She favoured a neutral stance so that future actions remain data-driven. Executive Director Rajiv Ranjan observed that while growth remains resilient on the back of public capex, rural demand and steady services activity,

ing economic strategy clearly place it in a strong position," Malhotra said, as per the minutes. He added that while growth has been steady, inflation outcomes have turned more benign on the back of food price

industry continues to show uneven performance. "An additional rate cut at the current juncture could also reduce our policy space should global or domestic risks materialise," he said. External members also supported the pause. Ram Singh stressed the importance of policy flexibility in a volatile.

moderation. "Although we are likely to see inflation undershooting the target in the near term, with a likelihood of monthly numbers even crossing the lower tolerance band of 2 per cent, headline inflation.

Starlink to use Aadhaar for customer verification; UIDAI tie-up



Synergy

■ "Starlink's onboarding with Aadhaar authentication signifies a powerful synergy"

Authentication for customer verification, which will make the entire process smooth, secure and very easy," the statement said.

According to official estimates, Starlink has the capacity to onboard around 20 lakh customers in India at present.

"Starlink's onboarding with Aadhaar authentication signifies a powerful synergy: India's trusted digital identity joining hands with global satellite technology. Aadhaar e-KYC will facilitate the onboarding of users seamlessly, ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements while delivering high-speed internet to households, businesses, and institutions," the statement added. The appointment of Starlink Satellite Communication Pvt Ltd. Starlink will use Aadhaar.

Shipments up 5.37% in July despite global headwinds; April-July exports rise to \$12.18 bn

Exports

■ Instructions given to dispose of 89 cases pending at the level of District Steering

NEW DELHI: India's textile and apparel sector posted steady growth in July 2025, with exports of major commodities rising 5.37 per cent to \$3.10 billion from \$2.94 billion a year ago, the government said on Wednesday. According to the Textile Ministry, the industry has demonstrated resilience despite global uncertainties, reaffirming its role as a key driver of employment, exports, and economic growth,



PTI reported. As per quick estimates released by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCIIS), cumulative textile exports for April-July 2025 rose 3.87 per cent to \$12.18 billion against \$11.73 billion last year. The six major textile commodity groups together crossed \$3.1 billion in shipments

during July, supported by sustained demand for ready-made garments, jute, carpets, and handicrafts. Ready-made garment exports rose 4.75 per cent year-on-year to \$1.34 billion in July, while cumulative exports for April-July stood at \$5.53 billion, up 7.87 per cent from \$5.13 billion in the same period last year.

The ministry said the



Air Canada strike: Restart plan suspended as union defies return-to-work order; prolonged standoff deepens travel chaos.

As many as 45 cr people lose about Rs 20,000 cr annually from gaming



eSports

■ The Bill, which was passed by the Lok Sabha, proposes to promote eSports

mate that 45 crore people lose money every year. The total impact of the loss is estimated to be tentatively around Rs 20,000 crore," the source said, just as the Govt tabled the "Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill 2025" in the Lok Sabha. The Bill, which was passed by the Lok Sabha, proposes to promote eSports and online social gaming while banning money gaming in any form. "Online gaming involving money has become a major problem for society. Every Parliamentarian has raised concerns about its ill effects. Between revenue from one-third of the industry segment and society welfare, the govt has chosen welfare of society," the source said.

NEW DELHI: Much against the arguments spelt out by gaming companies against the ban on real-money gaming, Govt estimates that around 45 crore people lose close to Rs 20,000 crore every year in online real-money gaming, according to data provided by an official source on Wednesday. The source said the govt believes that online real-money gaming is turning into a "major problem for the society", and thus it decided to opt for revenue loss in preference to people's welfare. "There is a rough esti-

FinMin holds Q1 meeting with bank chiefs; SBI leads sector with Rs 44,218 crore



Notably

■ Notably, Punjab National Bank was the only state-run lender to post a decline

44,218 crore in the first quarter, marking an 11 per cent year-on-year growth. In comparison, the PSBs had together earned Rs 39,974 crore in Q1 FY25, reflecting

an increase of Rs 4,244 crore. SBI accounted for 43 per cent of the total earnings, reporting a net profit of Rs 19,160 crore, up 12 per cent over the same quarter last fiscal. The country's largest lender continues to dominate the sector in both size and profitability. Among smaller lenders, Indian Overseas Bank reported the highest growth in percentage terms with a

76 per cent jump in net profit to Rs 1,111 crore. Punjab & Sind Bank followed with a 48 per cent rise to Rs 269 crore. Notably, Punjab National Bank was the only state-run lender to post a decline in profit, with net earnings falling 48 per cent to Rs 1,675 crore against Rs 3,252 crore a year earlier. Other major performers included Central Bank of India.

AU\$90 million penalty: Qantas Airways fined for illegal sackings

Qantas: A judge in Australia fined Qantas Airways 90 million Australian dollars (\$59 million) for unlawfully dismissing more than 1,800 ground staff during the early stages of the Covid-19 pandemic. The penalty is in addition to the AU\$120 million (\$78 million) compensation the airline had already agreed to pay dismissed employees. Justice Michael Lee of the Australian Federal Court ruled that the dismissal of 1,820 baggage handlers and cleaners at

The action was taken suo motu by the authority following investigation into the company

Consumer authority slaps Rs 10 lakh fine on Rapido for misleading ads, unfair trade practices



Discontinue

■ The CCPA, in its order issued on directed Rapido to immediately discontinue

ance report within 15 days. According to CCPA, Rapido's misleading advertisement ran for over 18 months in multiple regional languages and across more than 120 cities.

"Therefore, the CCPA finds it necessary to impose a penalty to safeguard the interests of consumers," it said. As per the order, between April 2023 and May 2024, 575 complaints were filed against Rapido on the National Consumer Helpline and these covered issues such as non-refund of amounts, overcharging, service deficiency, and failure to provide promised

benefits. Of these, five complaints were directly related to the misleading "guaranteed auto" claim, which could only be redeemed against bike rides and expired within seven days. The authority found that these terms were neither clearly stated nor prominently displayed. In its defence, the company submitted that the terms and conditions were clear that customer.

The CCPA, in its order issued on Wednesday, directed Rapido to immediately discontinue the misleading advertisements and compensate consumers

who were not provided the promised cashback. Each affected consumer is to be paid Rs 50, as originally advertised. It also instructed the company to file a compli-

Pakistan flash floods: Over 320 dead in torrential downpours



Rescue efforts are proving difficult

Rescue efforts are proving difficult. Nearly 2,000 personnel have been deployed, but landslides, washed-out bridges and broken link routes have slowed relief work. "Heavy rainfall, landslides and washed-out roads are severely hampering rescue."

Workers are forced to walk long distances

"In some areas, workers are forced to walk long distances to reach disaster sites. They are trying to evacuate survivors, but very few people are relocating due to the deaths of their relatives or loved ones being trapped in the debris."

to continue with greater intensity over the next fortnight, as per PTI. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa saw the hardest hit, with 327 deaths confirmed so far. The Buner district alone has

reported more than 200 fatalities, making it the worst-affected area. At least 137 people have been injured across the province as houses collapsed and raging torrents swept away.

Afghanistan's water push: Kabul seeks control of rivers



Fragile ties

□ **Taliban's canal projects raise alarms as neighbours fear flow cuts**

stressed Central Asian states. Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, backed by Kazakhstan, have raised alarms that the project could further shrink the Aral Sea and destabilise the region's water-sharing arrangements, which date back to the Soviet era. Water governance specialist Mohd Faizee cautioned

Lhasa: Chinese President Xi Jinping arrived in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa on Wednesday and made his rare and second visit as China's leader, marking the 60th anniversary of Tibet's establishment as an autonomous region.

During his visit, Xi emphasised the importance of stability, stating, "To govern, stabilise and develop

Tibet, the first thing is



to maintain political stability, social stability, ethnic unity and religious harmony," according to Reuters citing state media reports. Xi last visited Tibet in July 2021, where he encouraged residents to "follow the party." This visit was widely interpreted by external observers as a demonstration of the Communist Party's assurance in

maintaining order in a region with a long-standing history of resistance against Chinese rule. Established in 1965 by the ruling Communist Party, the Tibet Autonomous Region was intended to grant local ethnic minority groups, including Tibetans, greater influence over policy matters and religious freedoms.

Chants & boos disrupt JD Vance's national guard lunch

Carolina : Vice President JD Vance's lunch event with national guard troops at Union Station on Wednesday was disrupted by a wave of protests, as demonstrators voiced opposition to the Trump administration's security deployment in the capital. Vance, joined by defence secretary Pete

Hegseth and White House deputy chief of staff Stephen Miller, met National Guard members - many from red states such as South Carolina, Ohio, and Mississippi - at a Shake Shack inside the station. The visit was intended as a gesture of appreciation for troops deployed to patrol Washington, DC.

Electric shocks, gang rapes & more...

What happens inside Myanmar's detention centers?

Civil War

□ **Army overthrew Aung San Suu Kyi's elected government, sparking a civil war**

al report on Tuesday, covering the 12 months to 30 June. The country has been in turmoil since February 2021, ever since the army overthrew Aung San Suu Kyi's elected government, sparking a civil war. As peaceful protests were crushed



with lethal force, those opposing military rule took up arms. Since then, conflict has engulfed large parts of Myanmar. The investigative team, as quoted by AP, said that it had

made progress in identifying security personnel involved in detention operations, as well as "perpetrators who have summarily executed captured combatants or civilians

Vladimir Putin paid cash to refuel planes, says Rubio; sanctions block banking access

Sanctions

- He added that despite their severity, these sanctions have not altered the direction of the war in Ukraine.
- Responding to calls for stronger action, Rubio argued that imposing new sanctions



Alaska: Russian President Vladimir Putin's delegation had to pay in cash for jet fuel, when he visited Alaska on August 15, for a high-stakes meeting with US President Donald Trump, US secretary of state Marco Rubio said, citing ongoing US banking sanctions against Moscow. "When the Russians landed in Alaska, they were there to refuel. They had to offer to pay in cash to refuel their aeroplanes because they can't use our banking system," Rubio told NBC News. The Russian delegation was in Alaska for around five hours as part of a high-level summit with President Trump. While Trump confirmed that no ceasefire deal was reached, reports indicate Russia had

tabled an offer, with Trump encouraging Ukraine to consider it. However, no formal agreement emerged from the nearly three-hour meeting. On the broader sanctions debate, Rubio defended the current measures, stating, "every single sanction that was in place on the day he took over remains and the impact of all those sanctions remains."

He added that despite their severity, these sanctions have not altered the direction of the war in Ukraine. Responding to calls for stronger action, Rubio argued that imposing new sanctions could derail diplomatic engagement. "The minute we

take those steps, there is no one left in the world to go talk to the Russians and try to get them to the table to reach a peace agreement," he said. The summit also saw Trump meet Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and European leaders to discuss long-term security guarantees. Zelenskyy reiterated his openness to direct talks with Putin but rejected any proposal involving territorial concessions. Rubio acknowledged the limitations of economic penalties in forcing an outcome: "There is no evidence that more sanctions... would have an immediate effect, because sanctions take months and sometimes years to bite."

Man sets fire, smashes desks at Milan airport

Delays, evacuation follow

Unfolding

- **Meanwhile at Malpensa Airport, Milan Italy. Usual suspect is apprehended**



and several flight disruptions. The clip, shared by one user on X, was captioned: "Meanwhile at Malpensa Airport, Milan Italy. Usual suspect is apprehended after smashing parts of Airport Terminal up with a Hammer & then setting fire to it." The fire began around 11 am local time when the suspect poured flammable liquid and ignited it near the check-in area. Before that, he allegedly set fire to a waste bin and used a hammer.

Want a visa, or a green card? It's vital to have pro-American ideologies states USCIS

Analysis

- **"Immigration benefits—including to live and work in the United States**

dent visa, or a work visa; or wish to apply for a green card or US citizenship – the outcome of your applica-

tion will depend on whether the concerned official perceives you as having pro-American ideologies. "America's benefits should not be given to those who despise the country and promote anti-American ideologies. USCIS is committed to implementing policies and procedures that root out anti-

Americanism and supporting the enforcement of rigorous screening and vetting measures to the fullest extent possible," said USCIS spokesman Matthew Trager.

"Immigration benefits—including to live and work in the United States—remain a privilege, not a right," he added.

Papua shook by 6.3 magnitude quake, no tsunami

Papua : A 6.5-magnitude earthquake rattled Indonesia's eastern Papua region on Tuesday, causing tremors throughout the area. The US Geological Survey said the quake struck at about 5:24pm local time (0824 GMT), with its epicentre located roughly 193 kilometres northwest of Abepura. Fortunately, the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center confirmed that the earthquake did not pose a tsunami threat to the region.

Indonesia earthquake: Papua shook by 6.3 magnitude quake, no tsunami threat. This is a developing story.

When he steps away ...': Ex-India batter predicts Rohit ODI retirement and successor

● Kaif believes that the 2027 ODI World Cup will mark Rohit's final appearance in the format, following his earlier exits from T20Is and Test cricket.

Successor

□ Gill has been recalled to the format for the upcoming Asia Cup



"Gill's maturity and form made him an obvious choice for leadership"

Chief selector Ajit Agarkar explained that Gill's maturity and form made him an obvious choice for leadership grooming.

"We obviously see some leadership qualities in him. And his form in England

was what we were hoping for. He exceeded all our expectations with the kind of form that he showed with his bat, which is a great sign when there is so much pressure on you as a captain."

T20Is, he is the vice-captain. Rohit is the

future captain. He is the Test captain, and in

time on his 50-over career. Kaif believes that the 2027 ODI World Cup will mark Rohit's final appearance in the format, following his earlier exits from T20Is and Test cricket. Poll "In the last three years, Gill has scored 2,000 runs. He is the

2,000 runs. He is the

Online Gaming Bill 2025 passed in Lok Sabha

Ban on real money gaming



Regulate

□ Could face up to three years' imprisonment or fines of up to Rs 1 crore

one of India's fastest-growing industries. The legislation proposes the creation of a central regulatory body to oversee four key segments: esports, educational games, social gaming, and real money gaming. Among these, real money gaming platforms — such as poker and fantasy sports — face the biggest blow. The Bill's "Prohibitions" clause states: "No person shall offer, aid, abet, induce or otherwise indulge or engage in the offering of online money game and online money gaming service." It further bans banks and financial institutions from processing transactions for such platforms.

Under the "Offences and Penalties" clause, service providers found offering real money games could face up to three years' imprisonment or fines of up to Rs 1 crore.

NEW DELHI: The Lok Sabha on Wednesday passed the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025, amid protests by the Opposition. The legislation, which seeks to promote and regulate the online gaming sector, has drawn contrasting reactions — delighting the esports industry but sparking alarm in the multi-billion-dollar real money gaming market. The House was adjourned till Thursday following noisy protests, while the Rajya Sabha was adjourned till tomorrow. Despite the disruption, the Bill went through, creating a landmark moment for

Uncertainty

□ In 1986, India themselves withdrew from the second edition, hosted by Sri Lanka

NEW DELHI: The 2025 Asia Cup will be played in the United Arab Emirates from September 9 to 28, the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) confirmed earlier this month, ending weeks of speculation over India's participation. The uncertainty had stemmed from the worsening political climate between India and Pakistan, with growing calls for boycotts of bilateral fixtures at global sporting events. India also announced their 15-member squad this week, with Pakistan doing so a few days earlier. Yet, the shad-



ow of geopolitics — which has repeatedly intersected with the Asia Cup — continues to loom large.

When Pakistan pulled out of Asia Cup in India While India's absence from the 1986 edition in Sri Lanka remained the only time the Men in Blue skipped the tournament, Pakistan too had walked away from the continental event. The fourth Asia Cup, hosted by India in 1990-91, went ahead without Pakistan after the team pulled out citing

strained political relations with New Delhi. It was a major setback at the time, not just for the tournament but for Asian cricket unity. The pull-out meant the event lost one of its most intense rivalries — India vs Pakistan. India retained the trophy that year, defeating Sri Lanka in the final, but the absence of Pakistan left a glaring void. The tensions persisted, and the scheduled 1993 Asia Cup was cancelled altogether due to continuing hostilities between the two nations.

Football : Isak breaks silence over stalled move to Liverpool

Newcastle: Newcastle striker Alexander Isak has broken his silence regarding his potential transfer to Liverpool, stating his departure would be "in the best interests of everyone" amid speculation of a £110 million bid from the Merseyside club. The Swedish international, who has not played in pre-season or Newcastle's opening game, expressed his frustration over broken



promises and lost trust through an Instagram post on Tuesday. Liverpool's reported £110 million bid for the 25-year-old striker was rejected by Newcastle, who are demanding a British transfer record fee of up to £150 million. Isak chose not to attend the Professional Footballers' Association awards ceremony despite being named in the Premier League 2024/25 team of the year. Alexander Isak's Instagram Story on his desired move out of Newcastle United.

"I've kept quiet for a long time while others have spoken.

Big setback for S.Africa!

Bowler reported for suspect action on ODI debut vs Australia



NEW DELHI: South Africa's convincing start to the ODI series in Australia was overshadowed by an unexpected setback, as off-spinner Prenelan Subrayen was reported

for a suspect bowling action following the opening match in Cairns on Tuesday. The match officials expressed concerns about the legality of Subrayen's action in their post-match report, prompting the ICC's standard protocol.

The 31-year-old will now undergo an independent Assessment at an ICC-accredited testing facility, where his action will be scrutinised. Yes, they have the momentum. No, Australia will bounce back. It's too close to call. The development came on what was otherwise a memorable day for Subrayen. Making his 50-over debut, he bowled a full quota of

When Pakistan pulled out: Asia Cup's turbulent past back in spotlight before UAE 2025

Uncertainty

□ In 1986, India themselves withdrew from the second edition, hosted by Sri Lanka

NEW DELHI: The 2025 Asia Cup will be played in the United Arab Emirates from September 9 to 28, the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) confirmed earlier this month, ending weeks of speculation over India's participation. The uncertainty had stemmed from the worsening political climate between India and Pakistan, with growing calls for boycotts of bilateral fixtures at global sporting events. India also announced their 15-member squad this week, with Pakistan doing so a few days earlier. Yet, the shad-



ow of geopolitics — which has repeatedly intersected with the Asia Cup — continues to loom large.

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2025 edition at a neutral venue

Nearly four decades later, the Asia Cup continues to operate in the shadows of regional politics. The 2025 edition, though officially hosted by India, will take place in the UAE as part of a neutral-venue arrangement with the Pakistan Cricket Board. Under the deal, Indo-Pak fixtures in the next three years will be staged at third-party venues to avoid direct hosting disputes. This year's event will be played in the T20I format, featuring eight teams.

Only in 1995 did the competition resume, hosted in Sharjah, UAE. Pakistan's pull-out was not without precedent. In 1986, India themselves withdrew from the second edition, hosted by Sri Lanka.

World No.1 Jannik Sinner withdraws from mixed doubles

Illness

□ Danielle Collins and Harrison will replace Sinner and Siniakova



The 24-year-old Sinner had to concede the Cincinnati final to Alcaraz after falling behind 5-0 in the first set due to an illness that

began the day before the match. "I'm disappointed, I didn't feel great from yesterday," Sinner said on court. "During the night, I

thought I would recover a bit better, but it was not the case." Following his withdrawal from the Cincinnati final, Sinner did not attend the post-match press conference

I'm ready, physically and mentally." The mixed doubles event, scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, features a new shortened format designed to bring together the world's top singles players. Sinner's statement did not address his participation in the mixed doubles competition, leading to speculation about his ability to compete.

Ian James pens farewell letter to fans

NEW DELHI: Team Principal Ian James of the departing Formula E team NEOM McLaren has penned an open letter to the fans of the team, marking their departure from the electric motorsport format.

Addressing the Papaya Army, James thanked them for their trust and support as the team went on to win two Drivers' World Championships and two Teams' World Championships over 103 races in seven seasons. McLaren team principal Ian James pens open letter to fans



Ian James began the letter saying that he wrote it with "a huge amount of pride, as well as with more than a hint of sadness," as the team closed the final chapter after seven years of competing in the ABB FIA Formula E World Championship.

Thackeray pointed out that India has faced multiple Pakistan-based terrorist attacks in the past decade

'Is the BCCI above national interest?': Letter to sports minister Mansukh Mandaviya reignites debate

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NEW DELHI: Aaditya Thackeray, leader of Shiv Sena (UBT), has addressed a letter to union sports minister Mansukh Mandaviya expressing concerns

The tournament's final will take place in Dubai

The tournament's final will take place in Dubai on September 29. The competition will follow the T20I format in preparation for the T20 World Cup scheduled in India and Sri Lanka early next year. "Recently, the Prime Minister also said water and blood cannot flow together from the ramparts of the Red Fort.

nations have been isolated in sports for causes benefiting humanity, with terrorism being a significant factor pre-

venting peaceful progress between both nations. Thackeray pointed out that India has faced multiple

Red Fort. "Is it above the sacrifice of our Jawans? Is it above the Sindo of those who faced the attack in Pahalgam?" Thackeray stated.